Extension of Express Trains to Rajkot

1393. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 327 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th April, 1992 and state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend 2981/2982 Jammu Tawi-Ahmedabad Bi-weekly Sarvodaya Express to Rajkot twice a week instead of once a week, considering the difficulties experienced by the people of the area;

(b) whether Government also propose to extend the Howrah and Navjivan Express to Hepa and Rajkot; and

(c) if so, by when these trains are likely to be extended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Ban on movement of ainmals by trains

1394. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Goevrnment have recently received any request to ban the movement of animals by trains; and

(b) If so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ban on transport of animals by rail has been requested on the plea that these animals are moved for slaughter, depriving the people of milk, organic manure, gobargas, assistance in farming, etc. Railways are obliged to carry animals which are booked in cacordance with the rules and regulations and whose movement is not otherwise restricted under civil restriction imposed by the State Government concerned.

Railway Passes to Ex-M.P.s

1395. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued free railway passes to Ex-MPs;

(b) if so, the number of such passes issued during 1991 and 1992 separately and till date;

(c) whether these passes allow Ex-MPs to travel anywhere in First Class with their families and do not require any renewal;

(d) whether any criteria for issue of these passes have been fixed; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Complimentary Passes are being issued to eligible Ex-MPs.

(b) Number of Passes issued in 1991—NIL.

Number of Passes issued in 1992—600 (as on 30-6-1992).

(c) The Complimentary passes permit the eligible Ex-Members of Parliament to travel in First Class/AC Sleeper from any station to any station over the Indian Railways, with an attendant in Second Class. The Passes are valid for one year at a time.

(d) and (e) The Complimentary Passes are being issued only to those Ex-MPs who are eligible to draw pension from the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Secretariat under the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954.